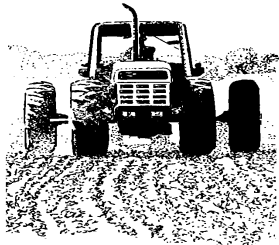


TENNESSEE WEEKLY  
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>

Released Weekly April - November

2005 Weather Crop 24

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Week Ending September 11, 2005

A GOOD WEEK FOR HARVEST

Plenty of sunshine and dry weather last week allowed Tennessee farmers to make excellent harvest progress. Corn, soybean, and tobacco harvest progressed well with rain-free conditions giving farmers seven days suitable for fieldwork. Corn producers pushed efforts into high gear and harvested almost a fifth of the grain acreage during the week. The majority of the corn crop had reached maturity, on pace with last year and the 5-year average. The State’s dairy producers took advantage of the weather, with just under 90 percent of the corn silage harvest completed. Tobacco growers also made headway, as burley harvest stayed on pace with last year and the 5-year average. Cotton defoliation got underway and over half of the cotton acreage had open bolls. As of Sunday, nearly half of the soybean acreage was dropping leaves and harvest kicked off. Other field activities last week included harvesting hay, applying fertilizer to fall forage crops, and clipping pastures.

As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 6 percent very short, 28 percent short, 64 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent very short, 29 percent short, 62 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. The weather pattern across the entire State last week featured a ridge of high pressure, resulting in dry conditions and near normal temperatures. No rainfall was recorded across Tennessee last week.

CROP PROGRESS: Through September 11, 2005					CONDITION: On September 9, 2005					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2004	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Mature	84	67	84	89	Soybeans	4	9	29	47	11
Corn - Grain Harvested	22	5	30	39	Cotton	0	2	21	60	17
Corn - Silage Harvested	87	74	88	87	Tobacco	2	7	28	55	8
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	49	37	26	24	Pastures	4	16	41	37	2
Soybeans - Harvested	7	2	4	1						
Cotton - Bolls Opening	55	29	40	58						
Cotton Defoliated	10	n/a	6	21						
Tobacco Topped	97	92	96	96						
Burley Tobacco Harvested	66	47	67	67						
Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	66	53	73	70						
Air-Cured Tobacco Harvested	69	45	85	81						

n/a = Not Available

**CORN:** Farmers made good progress last week harvesting their corn crop, but still lagged a week behind the normal pace. Many producers are waiting for fields to dry down further before starting harvest.

**COTTON:** As of Sunday, over half of the cotton acreage had open bolls. The State’s cotton crop remained in mostly good condition with defoliation underway in the major producing counties.

**SOYBEANS:** Nearly half of the soybean acreage was dropping leaves, nearly two weeks ahead of last year and the 5-year average. There were a few reports of insect pressure, but many producers are reluctant to make additional spray applications this late in the season. Early harvest continued.

**TOBACCO:** Virtually all of the State’s tobacco has been topped and over two-thirds of the crop was in the barn. Steady harvest progress was made last week. A few isolated fields were reported to have been damaged by wind from remnants of Hurricane Katrina. Disease pressure continued to be light, while tobacco conditions remained good-to-fair.

**PASTURES & HAY:** Many growers took advantage of last week’s excellent weather to cut hay, although there were reports of armyworms in some hay fields. Farmers are spraying insecticides, as needed. Pastures remained in mostly fair-to-good condition, although many are still in need of rain.

County Agent Quote

*“It has been great weather for harvesting tobacco. Much progress has been made in this area. However, the storm did damage some tobacco. Several acres of tobacco were cut and still in the field when the storm hit. Pastures have started to recover from the dry weather.”*

Steve Walker, Macon County

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending				Current		Current	Departure		
	September 11, 2005				Week	Rain	Since	From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	09/1105	Days	January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	91	58	75	+2	0.00	0	39.68	+2.91	2333	+182
Tri-City_RGNL_A	88	50	69	-2	0.00	0	30.17	+0.42	1653	+168
Brownsville_TN	89	62	76	+2	0.00	0	35.52	-1.28	2422	+509
Chattanooga/Lov	90	61	75	+1	0.00	0	36.19	-1.62	2243	+191
Clarksville_Sew	92	58	76	+4	0.00	0	35.83	+0.22	2266	+339
Cookeville	92	53	71	-1	0.00	0	31.69	-8.75	1817	+606
Covington	88	60	74	+1	0.00	0	36.78	+0.92	2242	+49
Crossville_AP	85	55	69	+0	0.00	0	34.38	-5.33	1616	+242
Dickson_AG	89	57	73	+0	0.00	0	37.90	-0.08	1890	-119
Dover_1W	87	59	74	+2	0.00	0	33.78	-3.14	2107	+392
Dyersburg	91	61	76	+2	0.00	0	33.36	-1.79	2429	+101
Erwin_1W	87	52	69	+2	0.00	0	33.09	-3.07	1542	-223
Huntingdon_Wate	88	56	73	+0	0.00	0	37.48	+0.47	2171	+344
Jackson_Exp_Stn	89	59	75	+2	0.00	0	40.97	+4.52	2303	+202
Kingston_AG	89	55	71	+0	0.00	0	38.11	-3.52	1872	+280
Knoxville_AP	91	57	74	+2	0.00	0	29.06	-4.98	2069	+289
Lewisburg	89	52	72	+0	0.00	0	36.07	-2.45	1987	+194
Lexington_TN	89	59	74	+0	0.00	0	37.17	+1.63	2144	+844
Linden	89	58	74	+2	0.00	0	35.11	-3.99	2085	+282
Martin	89	60	75	+3	0.00	0	34.47	-2.57	2210	+194
Mc_Minnville_Tn	90	57	73	+0	0.00	0	30.62	-7.16	2043	-185
Memphis_AG	90	59	75	-2	0.00	0	38.31	+2.26	2471	-125
Milan	90	56	73	+1	0.00	0	39.13	+1.10	2138	+170
Murfreesboro_5N	91	57	73	+1	0.00	0	33.62	-4.03	2132	-86
Nashville_Metro	89	62	75	+2	0.00	0	32.10	-1.71	2372	+261
Newcomb	90	51	70	+2	0.00	0	36.84	-2.28	1735	+440
Oneida	89	54	70	+2	0.00	0	33.54	-5.58	1730	-166
Pikeville	88	59	72	+0	0.00	0	29.20	-8.66	1939	+192
Portland_TN	88	59	74	+2	0.00	0	41.75	+5.13	2087	+334
Pulaski_Water_P	88	56	72	-4	0.00	0	38.77	+0.17	1979	-124
Savannah_6SW	89	57	73	-2	0.00	0	36.91	-2.84	2161	+301
Sparta_TN	90	53	72	+1	0.00	0	31.79	-7.24	2025	+511
Springfield	88	55	73	+1	0.00	0	36.48	+1.37	2022	+263
Springhill	90	56	73	+2	0.00	0	38.58	-0.09	2097	+307
Union_City	89	56	73	+2	0.00	0	36.05	-0.09	2070	+116
Waynesboro_TN	89	56	73	+2	0.00	0	36.50	-4.12	2058	+34

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.      Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

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